

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2281–S2309

Measures Introduced: Nineteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1017–1035, and S. Res. 142–143. **Pages S2300–01**

Measures Considered:

Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of S. 178, to provide justice for the victims of trafficking, taking action on the following amendment proposed there-to: **Pages S2286–88, S2288–95**

Pending:

McConnell (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 1120, to strengthen the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act by incorporating additional bipartisan amendments. **Pages S2286–88, S2288–95**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that when the Senate continues consideration of the bill on Wednesday, April 22, 2015, Senator Cornyn, or his designee, be recognized to withdraw McConnell (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 1120, and offer Amendments No. 1124 and No. 301; that there then be one hour of debate, equally divided in the usual form; that following the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on Leahy Amendment No. 301, followed by a vote on Amendment No. 1124, both with a 60 vote affirmative threshold for adoption; that if the Cornyn-Murray amendment is agreed to, the time until 2 p.m. be equally divided in the usual form, and Senate vote on the following amendments in the order listed, with two minutes of debate equally divided before each vote: Cornyn Amendment No. 1127 (side by side to Leahy Amendment No. 290), Leahy Amendment No. 290, Brown Amendment No. 311, Burr Amendment No. 1121, Kirk Modified Amendment No. 273; that amendments in the preceding list each be subject to a 60 vote affirmative threshold for adoption, and that following disposition of these amendments, there then be five minutes equally divided in the usual form, followed by votes on the following amendments (which have been cleared by the managers and should be adopted by voice vote): Klobuchar Amendment No. 296, Hoeven Modified

Amendment No. 299, Sullivan Amendment No. 279, Wicker Amendment No. 1126, Flake Amendment No. 294, Cassidy Amendment No. 308, Portman Amendment No. 1128 (the same as 270 with modification), Brown Amendment No. 310, Brown Amendment No. 312, Heller Amendment No. 1122, and Shaheen Amendment No. 303; that there be no second-degree amendments in order to any of the amendments listed, and that following disposition of Shaheen Amendment No. 303, the committee-reported substitute, as amended be agreed to, and Senate vote on passage of the bill. **Page S2295**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, April 22, 2015. **Page S2309**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the proposed Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the People's Republic of China Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (PM–14) **Pages S2297–98**

Lynch Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Loretta E. Lynch, of New York, to be Attorney General. **Page S2295**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, April 23, 2015. **Page S2295**

Measures Read the First Time: **Page S2298**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2298–S2300**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2301–02**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2302–06**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2306–08**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S2308–09**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S2309**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:41 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 22, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2309.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

AGRICULTURE TRADE WITH CUBA

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine opportunities and challenges for agriculture trade with Cuba, after receiving testimony from Michael Scuse, Under Secretary of Agriculture, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Service; Matthew S. Borman, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration; John E. Smith, Acting Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury; Michael V. Beall, NCBA CLUSA, Washington, D.C.; Terry L. Harris, Riceland Foods, Inc. Stuttgart, Arkansas; Ralph Kaehler, K–LER Cattle Company, St. Charles, Minnesota; Doug Keesling, Kansas Wheat, Chase; and C. Parr Rosson III, Texas A&M University, College Station.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 and fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, after receiving testimony from Robert A. McDonald, Secretary, Carolyn M. Clancy, Interim Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration, and Danny Pummill, Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

NOMINATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Peter Levine, of Maryland, to be Deputy Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

TERRORISM AND IRREGULAR WARFARE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, concluded a hearing to examine Department of Defense policy and programs to counter threats to the United States from terrorism and irregular warfare, after receiving testimony from Michael D. Lumpkin, Assistant Secretary for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict,

and Brigadier General Scott A. Howell, USAF, Deputy Director for Special Operations and Counterterrorism (J37), Joint Staff, both of the Department of Defense.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine surface transportation reauthorization, focusing on building on the success of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP–21) to deliver safe, efficient and effective public transportation services and projects, after receiving testimony from Therese McMillan, Acting Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation.

ADVANCING TELEHEALTH THROUGH CONNECTIVITY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet concluded a hearing to examine advancing telehealth through connectivity, after receiving testimony from Chris Gibbons, Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence, Connect2HealthFCC Task Force, Federal Communications Commission; Kristi Henderson, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson; Jonathan D. Linkous, American Telemedicine Association, Washington, D.C.; and Todd Rytting, Panasonic Corporation of North America, Newark, New Jersey.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, focusing on certification and U.S. aviation manufacturing competitiveness, after receiving testimony from Dorenda Baker, Director, Aircraft Certification Service, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation; Gerald L. Dillingham, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, Government Accountability Office; and Peter J. Bunce, General Aviation Manufacturers Association, Washington, D.C.

CONGRESS AND U.S. TARIFF POLICY

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Congress and United States tariff policy, after receiving testimony from Thomas J. Donohue, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Richard L. Trumka, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL–CIO), both of Washington, D.C.